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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 108

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

J. Paul Taylor

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A
COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH THE EXECUTIVE ON THE REORGANIZATION OF
THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS.**

**WHEREAS, the museums and monuments of New Mexico are the
most important assets the state possesses, and their
collections, along with the collections of the state library
and the work of the historic preservation division, give form
and dimension to New Mexico's history and culture; and**

**WHEREAS, the legislature and the executive have considered
the organizational structure of the office of cultural affairs
several times, from several independent museums to the 1977
educational finance and cultural affairs department, and then
to the creation of the office of cultural affairs in 1980 and
the 1989 proposed legislation for a commission for cultural**

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1 affairs to oversee the various boards of the museums and other
2 divisions of a cultural affairs department to the current
3 governor's desire to again spotlight cultural affairs by
4 elevating the office to cabinet department status; and

5 WHEREAS, given the importance of the office of cultural
6 affairs to New Mexico's history, culture, educational system
7 and economic development, it is incumbent upon the legislature
8 to ensure its participation in the office's reorganization;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
11 requested to appoint a committee of three house members and
12 three senate members to work with the office of cultural
13 affairs and the governor's office on reorganization plans for
14 the office; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee present its
16 recommendations, including draft legislation, to the New Mexico
17 legislative council by December 1, 2003; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the New Mexico legislative council.